

Winter2005

THE WOLVERINE GUARD

Soldiers and Airmen coming home!

Tribute to 125th Infantry Battalion Soldiers

Michigan Guardsmen honored to be part of Rosa Parks' funeral

A publication of the Michigan Army and Air National Guard
www.Michigan.gov/dmva



Maj. Gen. Thomas Cutler welcomes home Staff Sgt. Phillip Bruno, a member of the Lansing, Mich., Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery on Dec. 1, 2005. The 119th returned from one year of duty at Abu Ghrhaib, Iraq. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jim Downen Jr.)



From the desk of The Adjutant General



Another year to remember

As we begin this new year, I would like to thank each of you for being a part of the Michigan National Guard family. As we reflect on the year 2005, I think we can safely say it was one for the history books. For most of the year we had over 2,300 Soldiers and Airmen deployed to all parts of the world, doing a wide array of missions. Over 1,500 of them were operating in harms way in Iraq.

That level of operational activity would certainly have been a sufficient challenge for all of us, but it was soon to increase. To

make things even more challenging, along came the Base Closure and Realignment Commission (Air Force) and the Command Plan 2007 (Army). Both of these initiatives consumed a great deal of time and energy and will impact our National Guard for years to come. Finally, we had one more "big event" which ensured we all will remember 2005 and that was our response to Hurricane Katrina. With 2,300 people already deployed, we still managed to mobilize over 800 soldiers and airmen, all volunteers, in response to the needs of our fellow citizens in the Gulf States.

It was indeed an exceptionally challenging and busy year. But whether it was doing the normal day to day tasks, or taking an inspection, or fighting the Global War on Terrorism, or doing peace keeping missions, or responding to Hurricane Katrina, you did it all with exceptional dedication and professionalism. I am incredibly proud of you and am always deeply appreciative.

As we reflect on 2005 and all that we have accomplished, we should remember that it has been done at great cost. We have lost three of our own this year and it has been painful for all of us. We continue to be saddened by the loss of Staff Sgt. Ricky Keiffer, Spc. Tim Brown, Spc. John Dearing, and today the announcement of another Soldiers death, Sgt. Spencer Akers. I've had the opportunity to get to know their families and I understand why they were such outstanding young men. Each of them left wonderful families behind and I continue to remind them that they will always be a part of our Guard family. I want to thank all of you who have had a part in caring for and supporting these families. I know they deeply appreciate all you've done and all you continue to do.

In addition to these losses, we've had many of our soldiers wounded over the past year; some very seriously. All of this reinforces the serious nature of what we do, and should remind all of us to keep our soldiers and airmen, and their families, in our thoughts and prayers each and every day!

As we look to 2006, I'm sure there will be plenty of challenges. I do think that the number of people we'll have deployed will slowly come down, and that's good news for all of us. However, we will continue to ensure that we provide the best possible training so we are always ready to respond to our nation's needs.

We will also continue to provide the best possible support to the men and women who are still deployed and serving our nation so proudly. While we do all this, we will continue to invest in our future by recruiting our state's brightest and finest to the Michigan National Guard.

Our recruiters, both Army and Air Guard, have been doing a great job and are currently leading the nation in overall recruiting. That's something to be proud of and I thank you all for supporting them the way you have. Thank you again for being a part of our Guard family and I wish you well in this new year.

ATAG

★ From the desk of ★
The Assistant Adjutant General-Air

TALK



Brig. Gen. Kencil Heaton, speaks to guests at the 127th Wing ball in Nov. 2005.

Dear Airmen, Soldiers, and Families of the Michigan National Guard,

By the time you read this, the memories of my retirement will be starting to fade into the past. The past few weeks; the very last day at work; the retirement ceremony and the dinner with all the good-byes and well-wishing, will add the last chapter to what has become a gigantic mental memory scrapbook. The end of the my 37 year military career that started with a very simple commissioning ceremony at the University of Michigan's Air Force ROTC detachment, has reached it's final moment.

I was asked if I'd like to write this farewell article and I jumped at the opportunity. This will give me the opportunity to say a few things that most of you who missed the events of the past several weeks, will now get to read.

I have some "thank yous" to send. At the top of the list is my family for their unending support through all the years I have served. You have all heard it before; **we do** bring our families into the Guard, no matter what position we serve in. We could not do what we do without their involvement, trust, support, and love. Next, I go to my bosses, Maj. Gen. Tom Cutler and Brig. Gen. Ron Seely...you have been great friends, and you both placed your trust in me to serve in these last wonderful positions. Then, I go to the group of people that I have worked with. From the master sergeants, to the colonels, to the captains and all in between, you are absolutely the greatest in the world! There isn't a more loyal or dedicated group of people and I will never be able to fully express my thanks and appreciation to you. You are the ones I will miss the most!

I have spent most of my career in an aircraft cockpit and I have to acknowledge all those who I have had the privilege to fly with. I have attended their weddings and, very sadly, their funerals and I will never be able to express my deepest thanks for their camaraderie, friendship, and patriotism. My deepest thanks go to all who "fly and fight" in the defense of our country.

Many of you have asked me what I will miss the most. I have heard others say it is "not wearing the uniform anymore, no more flying upside down, no travel," etc. Well, those aren't mine. I've known for years what my answer would be to this question... **I will miss the people** that I have gotten to know so well and have worked with for the past 25 years across the Michigan National Guard--that is all of you and the hundreds whom I have served with.

Here are my final thoughts, taken from a speech I gave last spring:

It's not where you go; it's who you take the journey with...

It's not what you do there; it's that you do it as a team together...

It's not how well you prepared them before; it's that we successfully accomplished the mission in the end...

It's not what you get; it's who you accomplish it with...

It's not who you command, but all about how you lead them.

And now I think I can truly say that I've...

Been there,

Done that,

I've got the t-shirt (more than just a few)

But it's all been done with you!

It has been the utmost honor and privilege to serve our great nation with all of you. I guess the real reason I loved being in the military so much is that I was able to work daily with people who had similar beliefs in what is good and worthwhile. So, to all of you: **God speed, safe travels, and thanks to each of you for what you do for our great nation, state, and communities. Thanks for my memories!**

Kencil J. Heaton

Bullets

Events

The annual Senior Non Commissioned Officer Conference will be held March 3 - 5, 2005 in Ypsilanti, Mich. All senior NCOs, clear your calendar for that weekend! It will be the first joint NCO conference to be held in the Michigan National Guard. Make sure you're there!

Family

The Michigan National Guard Family Program will host the annual Family Conference and Youth Symposium 10-12 February 2006 at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Each Army National Guard unit may send two volunteers and two military representatives.

Air National Guard units may send the following: 127th Wing, six volunteers and one military representative; 110th Wing, three volunteers and one military representative; CRTC and HQ

MIANG, one volunteer and one military representative.

Military representatives should consist of the commander, Family Program Action Officer, chaplain, first sergeant, or command sergeant major/command chief master sergeant of the unit. All Michigan National Guard Family Program Advisory Council members and chaplains are authorized to attend. For information contact Sandy Mahoney at: sandra.mahoney@mi.ngb.army.mil or 517-481-8357.

Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs Office requests your articles and photos

We know that there are great things happening with our Soldiers and Airmen at home and abroad.

We need to tell the story of what the Michigan Army and Air National Guard are doing. We also welcome article of interest from our retired National Guard members.

On that note, we are requesting your input and articles of interest so that we can tell your story! Don't be shy about e-mailing us articles, photos (with caption and specific name, and rank of individuals in the photo, and location unless not authorized) and interesting topics for submission into the Wolverine Guard. We look forward to hearing from you!

If you have any questions regarding content, e-mail us at WolverineGuard@Michigan.gov

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Michigan Soldier Sgt. Timothy Moore of the Lansing, Mich., Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion 119th Field Artillery, is reunited with his daughter, Devon on Dec. 1, 2005 after a 14 month deployment, of which one year was spent in Iraq.
(Photo by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen, Jr.)

The Wolverine Guard is an unofficial publication authorized under the provision of AR 360-1. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or the Department of the Air Force. It is published quarterly by the Michigan National Guard Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs Office with a press run of 15,500.

Readers are encouraged to submit comments, articles, and information for publication to:

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Chaplain's offering

Seasons Greetings Gifted!

When we hear or read that word we may automatically attribute it to a young person known to be a talented athlete, artist or student. Such promise is based on the observed potential of the individual, by those in the know who take the youthful protégé under their mentoring wing and teach them how to become even better at what they do.

Such persons are few in number, giving the rest of us the impression that we are just ordinary, having no distinguishing characteristics that set us apart. Maybe we should reshape our thinking this time-frame between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day.

Each year we celebrate Thanksgiving Day, an interfaith celebration of creation, to highlight the importance of having a grateful heart, because we more often than not take so much for granted. We do so because we buy into the philosophy that we are self made men and women. The real truth is, "no person is an island." Yes, each one of us is molded and shaped by many influences throughout the years. For example, how often do we think about our own personal background? Do we frequently give thanks for growing up in a certain family and community that helped to nurture us, educate us and provide a job for us? What about giving thanks for our military training that calls us to excellence and integrity? Do we appreciate the willingness of others to embrace a lifestyle of service above self to ensure human freedom not only in this country but around the world?

How about our religious traditions? Are we grateful for them? These long standing traditions put us in communion with nature, the divine and each other. Insights derived from religion mentor us in how to live a meaningful life, overcome difficulties and have a hopeful vision for the future.

Religious traditions often times subtly touch the lives of believers and unbelievers alike. Take for example the following.

Judaism celebrates Hanukkah Dec. 26 to Jan. 2, also known as the "Festival of Lights." It commemorates the Maccabean recapture and rededication of the Jerusalem temple in 165-164 B.C.E.



Special readings and praise songs focus on liberty and freedom.

Christmas Eve recalls the arrival of Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem for the birth of Jesus. It is observed with worship, candle lighting, manger scenes and festive meals. Dec. 25 rejoices at the birth of Jesus Christ --observed by prayers, exchanging of gifts, and family parties.

Watch Night, celebrated on Dec. 31 is an occasion to thank God for bringing people safely through another year. This was developed by the African American community in the United States at the time of Emancipation (1863).

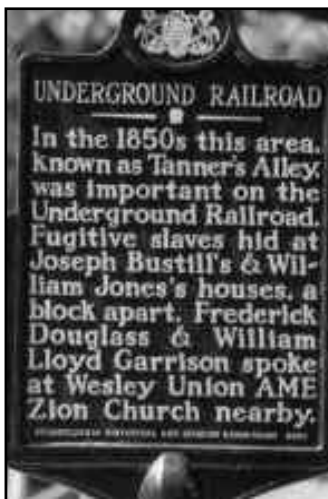


These recurring religious festivals intentionally dispel the darkness, thereby encouraging us to be thankful -- thankful for being gifted, as well as being a gift. What's the point?

Well, when each one of us was created, **Divine Love** made sure that we would carry with us a daily reminder of our *specialness*. What is that mark of *specialness* that sets us apart as unique, one of a kind, unrepeatable? Our fingerprints. No one in the past, no one in the present, no one in the future has, had, or will ever have those identical fingerprints. It is the Creators's way of reminding each one of us on a daily basis that the life we are living will only be lived once.

Hopefully, each one of us will live our life well and always see ourself as a gift and as one who has been gifted.

May we all thankfully remember every time we use our hands, whether in season or out of season, that we are putting our own unique mark, the gift of ourselves, on the mission.



Robert J. Keller. Col., MIANG
Chaplain

Brig. Gen. Richard Elliott named assistant adjutant general of the Michigan Air National Guard

Brig. Gen. Richard G. Elliott has been named the new deputy director and assistant adjutant general for the Michigan Air National Guard. Elliott will begin in January, upon the retirement of the current assistant adjutant general for Air, Brig. Gen. Kencil J. Heaton.

Elliott will be responsible for the oversight of the 2,800 members of the Michigan Air National Guard and their units located in Alpena, Battle Creek, Mount Clemens and the headquarters unit in Lansing.

“Gen. Elliott has proven leadership experience with strong personal values to effectively lead the Michigan Air National Guard,” said Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler, adjutant general of the Michigan National Guard. “These qualities are more important than ever as the Michigan National Guard is busier and in more places at one time than I’ve ever seen it.”

Elliott has more than 31 years of military experience, to include serving on active duty in the U.S. Air Force and the New York Air National Guard. He joined the full time workforce at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in 1996 and has served as the 127th Airlift Group commander, 127th vice commander, and is currently serving as commander of the 127th Wing. He is a graduate of Pepperdine University, Calif., and has a Master’s Degree in business management.

As a command navigator, Elliott has more than 3,000 flying hours as a tactically qualified C-130E navigator and has flown T-43, F-4, and C-130 aircraft.

Headquarters member adds star

Michigan National Guard Joint Force Headquarters staff and guests saw stars during the December unit training assembly. The stars went to recently Senate confirmed Brig. Gen. Robert Johnston, the Michigan Air National Guard’s vice-commander.

Johnston is a traditional Guard member with more than 27 years of service with the Air National Guard. He began his military career in July 1978 at the Academy of Military Science, McGhee Tyson ANG Base, Knoxville, Tenn., where he graduated first in his class.

After commissioning he attended undergraduate pilot training at Williams Air Force Base, Ariz., and received his wings in Oct. 1979. After F-4 training at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., he was assigned to the 191st Fighter Interceptor Group at Selfridge as an alert pilot.

Johnston has served in many capacities since his assignment to the Michigan Air National Guard, to include alert pilot, scheduler, flight instructor, alert force commander, chief of safety, 107th Fighter Squadron commander, 127th Wing vice commander, and commander of the 127th Wing.

He is a command pilot with more than 3000 hours in the T-37, T-38, F-4, and F-16.

Johnston is a second generation general; his father served as the adjutant general of Michigan from 1974 to 1983.



Brig. Gen. Robert Johnston and his wife, Debbie, welcomed guests at a promotion party reception held at the home of Mrs. Dorothy Johnston, mother of the new general and wife of Maj. Gen. John Johnston, a former adjutant general of Michigan. (Photo by Master Sgt. Denice Rankin)

Peplinski to command 127th Wing



ANG Photo

Col. Michael L. Peplinski has been named to succeed Brig. Gen. Richard G. Elliott as commander of the Michigan Air National Guard's 127th Wing.

Peplinski graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1979 and has a master's degree in International Relations from Troy State University. He served on active duty for nearly 20 years with the Air Force before joining the Air National Guard in his home state of Michigan. His duties have included instructor pilot, flight commander, operations officer, squadron commander and operations group commander. He is a command pilot with more than 3400 hours of flight time of which 3200 is in various blocks and models of the F-16 aircraft.

On a recent deployment, Peplinski served as the commander of the 506th Air Expeditionary Group, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, at Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq. He was awarded the Bronze Star award and an Air Medal in recognition of his exceptionally meritorious service.



NCO Golf Classic Committee is on par!



Chuck Mills, an employee of the Michigan National Guard and a member of the NCO Golf Classic committee, presents a check for **a whopping \$5,500** to Master Sgt. Janet Weber on behalf of the Michigan Family Support Group Inc. Pictured are some of the committee members, Sgt. Maj. David Weigel, Master Sgt. Bruce Nelson, Weber, Mills, State Family Program Director Maj. Mary Jones and Mrs. Sandra Mahoney. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen, Jr.)

Adam's Army crazy, in a good way!

By Master Sgt. Denice Rankin, Joint Force Headquarters

When Lansing area resident, Adam Goodsir turned seven years old, he had a birthday party. Instead of asking for birthday presents, Adam asked his 20 guests to bring supplies for deployed Soldiers.

Young Adam is "Army crazy" and plays Army all the time. For his party, he chose an Army theme. Adam organized his guests into platoons and played Army games at the party. The kids colored pictures for the troops, wrote them letters, and helped pack almost four boxes full of goodies for Soldiers overseas.

Maj. Gen. Thomas Cutler, the adjutant general of Michigan and Brig. Gen. Robert Taylor, the assistant adjutant general for Army, caught wind of Adam's devotion to our troops and invited Adam and his Mom, Kerry, and his sister Rachel, to come up to the Joint Force Headquarters building. They were impressed by the respectful young fellow with the Army admiration and both officers presented him with a coin and other tokens in recognition of his Army passion.

Now there's a trade off for a seven year-old boy: all his

potential birthday presents in exchange for supplies for the troops!!

What a tangible example young Adam gave of his true appreciation for our members serving overseas! Perhaps in the months to follow, we can all get a little "Army crazy".



Maj. Gen. Thomas Cutler, Kerry, Adam and Rachel Goodsir, and Brig. Gen. Robert Taylor stand together after Adam's "coin" ceremony.



Adam Goodsir, center right, gets a little help blowing out his birthday candles. He also got help from all his guests, to fill up four large boxes of supplies for deployed Soldiers. Guests drew pictures and wrote notes to our deployed troops. Adam opted out of birthday presents and asked his guests to bring "stuff" to send to Soldiers! (Photo courtesy of Kerry Goodsir)

Wesaw, first in the state, second in the nation

By Master Sgt. Rob Piper, MIARNG Recruiting and Retention Command

Michigan Army National Guard's number one--top performing recruiting and retention non-commissioned officer is number two in the nation.

Sgt. 1st Class Jason M. Wesaw, a recruiting and retention non-commissioned officer stationed in Kalamazoo with primary recruiting responsibilities at Western Michigan University, was Michigan's 2005 Chief's 54; each state and territory has one Chief 54 recipient.

After being selected as the Michigan Army National Guard's Chief's 54 award recipient, Wesaw competed in Minnesota against the top Army National Guard recruiting and retention non-commissioned officers from Indiana, Iowa, Ohio, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois.

Wesaw was selected by the Recruiting and Retention Area Command IV board as the nominee for the National Recruiter of the Year competition.

The Army National Guard's recruiting and retention strength maintenance efforts are divided geographically into seven individual area commands throughout the nation. Each year at the annual Chief's Strength Maintenance Award Conference, the National RRNCO is selected by a board of Sergeant's Majors who represent each recruiting and retention area command.

The competitors are the top Recruiting and Retention NCOs from each of the seven commands. Master Sgt. Eric E. Meschke, Task Force South production sergeant major, attended the conference, along with senior leaders of Michigan National guard's recruiting command

Wesaw was the second place finisher in the closest competition since the inception of the award. According to National Guard Bureau, there was only one point between the winner, Sgt. 1st Class Rodger Harder from Wyoming, and Wesaw.

"It was disappointing not to win but at the end of the day I did my best and that's all you can do," said Wesaw.

Wesaw attributes his success to his belief in God, a strong support group "chaired" by his wife Necole and daughter Kassidy, and his recruiting team; the Mustangs.

"Recruiting is a career which requires a lot of hard work, self discipline, time management, a belief in oneself, as well as a strong support team of family, friends and fellow Soldiers who understand



Photo by: Staff Sgt. David Whitehead, 126th Press Camp Headquarters

the trials of this job, in order to keep you going when times get tough. I'm fortunate. We're from one of the top producing states in the country, and we have several outstanding recruiters here. I am blessed to have the opportunity to serve with them," said Wesaw.

Besides being a top-notch recruiter in the state and the nation, Wesaw has an outstanding military resume. He is a qualified Ranger, Ranger Instructor, and Primary Leadership Development Course instructor.

He is a veteran of the Gulf War and served in combat with the 82nd Airborne during Desert Storm. Wesaw is a member of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club.

Wesaw has two years of recruiting experience in the Michigan Army National Guard. In his first year on production, he earned Michigan Army National Guard's Rookie of the Year .

Michigan mourns death of Company B, 125th Infantry Soldiers

On Nov. 4, 2005, Spc. Timothy D. Brown, 23, of Cedar Springs, Mich. and a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry, Saginaw, Mich., died in Al Taqaddum, Iraq of injuries sustained earlier that day when a land mine detonated near his vehicle during combat operations.

Spc. Brown enlisted in the Michigan Army National Guard on March 23, 2003. He was called to active duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on Feb. 5, 2005. He was deployed to a joint Army and Marine forward operating base. On the date of Spc. Brown's death, a U.S. Marine was also killed. The following message was spoken by Joint Force Chaplain Maj. Douglas A. Etter at the memorial service in Iraq. The text following has been edited only to shorten the length of the message.

This morning as we gather, I see no Soldiers. I see no Marines. I see not one soul from Michigan or North Carolina, Pennsylvania or California. I see no black and white, no him and her, all I see are Americans. Proud. Strong. Courageous and kind Americans.

That is what has brought us here to this place, this most dangerous of places. We are here because we love our country, but you are here this morning because you love these men. So different, yet so much alike.

Brown was a little fella, Gunny was larger than life...but they both had such great hearts. Either one of them would do anything for you. Nothing was impossible for them. Stubborn, bull headed, determined; call them what you will, but they both got the job done. They made things happen. They achieved results. They lived out the motto of this Task Force, "Make it Happen." They were dependable, loyal and trustworthy.

Spc. Brown always tried to fly below the radar, Gunny Boatman set off radar alarms where ever he went. But if a [fire] fight broke out, they'd both be in the middle of it, covering their brother's back, watching out for them, protecting them. Because that's what they both did. That's the way they lived. They took care of their units, their friends, their families. That's how they died.

Fellow Soldiers used to be amazed at the detailed notes Spc. Brown would take at mission briefs. And why? Because he wanted to get it right.

Spc. Brown's nick name was UPS, because of the corporation's new advertising campaign, "What can Brown do for you?" That idea could have just as easily been Gunny Boatman's slogan, "What can I do for you?" Perhaps, because of the Christian faith

they shared, they heard and remembered the words of Jesus in Mark chapter ten, when Jesus asks not once but twice, "What do you want me to do for you?"

In John's Gospel, Jesus said, "No greater love hath a man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

And that is what they did for us, Tim and Darrell, Spc. Timothy Brown and Gunnery Sgt. Darrell Boatman. They laid down their lives for their country, for their friends. They laid down their lives for us.

And so now the question is, what will we do for these brave warriors- our friends? Two men very different, yet very much alike; defenders of Liberty and her children. What shall we do for America's finest and fallen?

I don't know about you, but I've made my choice. I've made my decision. In their memory and in their honor, I will continue to live out the Warrior's Ethos, under which they lived, so help me God.



Spc. Timothy D. Brown on duty in a guard tower in Iraq.
(Photo courtesy of Chaplain (Maj.) Doug Etter.)

Michigan mourns again

Michigan National Guard members were again saddened by the death of another Company B, 125th Infantry Soldier. Pfc. John W. Dearing, 21, of Hazel Park, Mich. died in Habbaniyah, Iraq on Nov. 21, 2005 when an improvised explosive device detonated near his HMMWV. The explosion also critically critically injured four other Company B Soldiers.

Pfc. Dearing deployed with Company B in June in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, and served valiantly with his battalion.

Following is the memorial tribute for Pfc. John W. Dearing, spoken by Chaplain Doug Etter on Nov. 30, 2005 at Camp Habbaniyah, Iraq.

God still, has not answered my prayers. Each and every time you and I come to this sacred space to say good bye, I pray it will be the last...And it is not because I don't want to be with you. Quite to the contrary, like Private First Class John Dearing, I love the company of soldiers. I rejoice and celebrate the sweetness of our fellowship just like John did.

Pfc. Dearing was not in the military very long. But all of you who knew him, know the Army was his life. Basic training, AIT and soon after the mission to the Sinai. He knew the heat, the sun, the sand and yet, like so many of you, his brothers, he volunteered to come back. He didn't have to but he did. He was not reluctant or unwilling. He was committed and prepared.

His great heart came out in his smile, in the way he loved life, in the way he worked so hard to make you smile, make you laugh and make sure every one was having a good time. His heart came out running from tower to tower in the Sinai to tell them the time or after spending the afternoon underneath a truck cleaning the chassis with his toothbrush, his smile never dimming even as the sun was setting on the distant horizon. That heart swelled with pride at the sight of any John Deere product or when he spoke of being a country boy. In fact, just in case someone couldn't see the pride he took in being a simple country boy, he had COUNTRY tattooed across the top of his young strong back in big bold letters.

And as some of you know that John also had the 91st Psalm tattooed on his back, the entire psalm. Listening to the words again this morning, I wonder if you believe them the way John did...

"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty...

Surely he will save you...He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield...A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand but it will not come near you...If you make the Most High your dwelling



Pfc. John Dearing, somewhere in Iraq.

(Photo courtesy of the family of Pfc. Dearing)

- even the Lord, who is my refuge – then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways... 'Because he loves me', says the Lord, 'I will rescue him, I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call upon me and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble. I will deliver him and honor him' " (Psalm 91)

In listening to those words again this morning, I thought about Paul's words to the Christians in Rome, "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8: 38-39) You see evil can spit on us, it can slap us, it can strike us, it can stab us, it can even slay us...but it can never separate us from those who love us.

I know that many of you loved him. Admit it or not, all human beings are love magnets. We like to be with the ones who love us most. That is why John had the 91st Psalm, the Soldier's Psalm tattooed on his back, he loved soldiers and he had written on his heart, each and every one of your names...

John touched many lives here. I was the last person here on this FOB to touch him, literally, and I would say to you, the same thing I said in the back of that ambulance, with my hand resting on him:

May the Lord bless you and keep you, May the Lord, make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you, May the Lord, lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give to you, and to those whom you love, God's peace.

*So sleep in peace my young brother,
Sleep in perfect peace.*

The funeral of Rosa Parks

By Maj. Dawn Dancer and Maj. Leonard D. Rusher, Joint Force Headquarters

They came from across the street and from around the world, from block club presidents to a former President of the United States. They were there to say, “goodbye” and to say, “thank you.”

There was a feeling of tranquility in the air that November morning at the funeral of Rosa Parks. It could be felt throughout the hallowed halls of the sanctuary where she rested in the peaceful care of her Savior. During the ceremony, community leaders and government officials spoke of her courage and gentleness. Others spoke of Jim Crow. My daughters whispered, “Who was Jim Crow?” I told them, Jim Crow was not a person as much as it was a way of life for their grandparents, and for many of the very people sitting in this Detroit temple.

As I took in the events before me, I realized history was unfolding before my eyes. More than 4,000 people gathered in the sanctuary, many stood outside, and thousands upon thousands of others sat glued to their television sets, all to pay their last respects to the courageous Alabama woman who, on Dec. 1, 1955, refused to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery cross-town bus.

Rosa Parks was jailed for her actions against the Jim Crow rules that segregated blacks and whites on public bus transportation, but she quickly became a living legend and has been called “the Mother of the Civil Rights Movement” ever since. She down played this title, however, saying, “I was just one of many who fought for freedom.”

In Alabama, Rosa and her family received numerous threats and almost constant telephone harassment. The strain caused her husband, Raymond, to suffer a nervous breakdown. In 1957, the family moved to Detroit and for 48 years, Detroit was home.

Today in Detroit, my eyes scanned the massive crowd of celebrities and strangers. The VIPs included Revs. Jesse Jackson, Al Sharpton and Joseph Lowery; former President Clinton and his wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton; Michigan Rep. John Conyers; Nation of Islam leader Louis



Rosa Parks, 1913-2005

Farrakhan; and singer Aretha Franklin.

But, for me, there was a group of familiar faces-- the pall bearers. They were dressed in Army greens and each wore a Michigan Army National Guard patch on their left shoulder. As the world watched them, they saw what I see everyday: the incredible professionalism of the National Guard. As they carried Ms. Parks into the sunset, they added another proud chapter to Michigan's history. Later I asked them how it felt to be a part of it. Spc. William Sanderfer, 1st Battalion, 182nd Field Artillery, responded, “My heart was racing, my adrenaline was pumping and my legs felt like Jell-O, but I could feel her spirit with each step I took.”

Today, putting on my uniform and preparing to report to duty carries a new meaning and historical relevance. The hand of the Michigan National Guard delivered Rosa Parks to her final resting place. That hand is always there, as I am, waiting to respond to the world's call.

The Jim Crow rules for the public bus system in Montgomery almost defy belief today. Black customers had to enter the bus at the front door, pay the fare, exit the front door and climb aboard again at the rear door. Even though the majority of bus passengers were black, the front four rows of seats were reserved for white customers. Behind these seats was a middle section that blacks could use only if there was no white demand. However, if so much as one white customer needed a seat in this middle section all the blacks in that section had to move. It was this middle section where Rosa Parks was seated on Dec. 1, 1955.

Congressional Medal of Honor and Statuary Hall

In July 1999, the U.S. Congress awarded Parks the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor, the nation's highest civilian award.

In accepting the award at a ceremony in the nation's capital presided over by President Bill Clinton, Parks said, as quoted in "Jet" magazine, "This medal is encouragement for all of us to continue until all people have equal rights."

The first recipient of this award was George Washington. Other recipients include Mother Theresa and Nelson Mandela.

In December, President George W. Bush signed a bill directing that a statue of Rosa Parks be placed in the Capitol's Statuary Hall.

Parks will be the first black woman represented in the hall where many states have statues honoring notable people in their history.

Statuary Hall is next door to the Capitol Rotunda, where Parks lay in honor after her death. She was the first woman to be given the honor.

*End notes compiled from Thomson Gale™, an e-research and educational publishing resource.
<http://www2.carinbridge.org/mi/jimruth/history.htm>*



Members of the Michigan National Guard were honored to serve as pallbearers at the funeral of Rosa Parks. Pictured are (clockwise beginning with front right) Spc. Dwayne Deberry, Spc. Amer Wright, Staff Sgt. Daniel Germain, Staff Sgt. Stanford Penn, Sgt. Tamika Husband, and Spc. William Sanderfer (Photo by Staff Sgt. Helen Miller, Joint Force Headquarters, Visual Information)

Selfridge Special Operations Weather Flight Team member is first from Air National Guard to complete course

By Senior Airman Alec Lloyd, 127th Wing Public Affairs

Learning new tricks is not just for the young dogs. Master Sgt. Peter Barberi, a 46-year-old member of the 107th Weather Flight at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., recently graduated from Air Force Advanced Skills Training at Hurlburt Field in Florida. He is the first Air National Guard Special Operations Weather Team member to complete the course.

The five-month course emphasizes combat and survival techniques necessary for special operations. For Barberi, a member of the 107th Weather Flight, the training represented a new and satisfying level of personal and professional challenges.

The first two and a half months of the training focused on tactical infiltration and “*exfiltration*” techniques; a small but critical element of combat weather operations.

The second half centered on small unit tactics and small-arms proficiency; vital skills for combat weather flight members who often venture behind enemy lines to get real-time data on local weather conditions.

The physical demands of the course during the height of the Florida summer were daunting, but Barberi had an additional obstacle to overcome; winning the trust and confidence of his teammates.

The full Advanced Skills Training course has four phases. The first two focus on water and ground operations - useful training for combat controllers and other special operations, but beyond the scope of combat weather operators. Barberi did not attend these two portions, but his teammates did.

When he and other latecomers arrived for the final two phases they had to prove themselves to men who had already established strong bonds based on shared hardships. The best way to do that, according to Barberi, was to maximize one’s individual score at the initial physical training evaluation.

“It is kind of like a pack of dogs when a new dog shows up,” Barberi said. “If you don’t score really well, it’s going

to take a lot to redeem yourself.”

He posted the second highest score - no mean feat in a group where 30 years old was “old” and the vast majority of participants were under 21 years old. At age 46, he is believed to be the oldest graduate of the course.

Though twice as old as most of his teammates, Barberi felt his age gave him an edge over them. “I had training, motivation and experience,” he said. He noted that decades of physical exercise had given him a detailed knowledge of his body’s potential - and its limits.

Barberi said that his status as a traditional National



Master Sgt. Peter Barberi negotiates the horizontal ladder during the graduation day “Stress Course” at the Air Force Advanced Skills Training in Hurlburt Field, Fla. (Photo courtesy of Barberi)

Guard member was a non-factor with his teammates. His drive and competence was all that mattered to the class.

As for the 107th Weather Flight, it is a “yes-factor” that one of their own is numbered as the first Air National Guard SOWT member to be among the elite graduates of the Air Force Advanced Skills Training special operations course.

Michigan Army Guard wins Stellar safety award

By Lt. Col. Jerome Hurtgen, Safety and Occupational Health Manager

The Director of Army Safety, Brig. Gen. Joe Smith, was on hand at the Army National Guard's annual Safety and Standardization Conference held Nov. 2005



Col. Gary Cuyler, Deputy Chief of Staff for Safety and Aviation is congratulated by Maj. Gen. Thomas Cutler. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen, Jr.)

to recognize a handful of states and territories for their accident prevention efforts. With no Class-A or B accidents during the last five years, Michigan was one of the recipients.

Col. Gary Cuyler, Deputy Chief of Staff for Safety and Aviation, accepted the National Guard Bureau Stellar Award on behalf of all Michigan Soldiers. Cuyler attributed the award to the aggressive Safety and Composite Risk Management training program sponsored by the Safety and Occupational Health Office. "Since 2002, over 350 Soldiers have completed formal risk management training," he said. "The techniques learned in this proactive training are obviously making a difference for our Soldiers."

FY-06 Army Guard Safety Training

- Jan. 10-12, 2006 Composite Risk Management
- Feb. 4-5, 2006 Safety Officer/NCO Course
- Feb. 25-26, 2006 Ammunition Handler/Driver Cert.
- March 11-12, 2006 Ammunition Handler/Driver Cert.
- April 8-9, 2006 Ammunition Handler/Driver Cert.
- April 22-23, 2006 Composite Risk Management
- May 13-14, 2006 Ammunition Handler/Driver Cert.
- May 20-21, 2006 Composite Risk Management
- June 3, 2006 Unit Radiation Safety Officer Course

Camp Grayling Maneuver Training Center wins National Guard Bureau Excellence in Diversity Unit Award

The Camp Grayling Maneuver Training Center recently received the NGB Excellence in Diversity Unit Award. Competing against all the states in the union, Camp Grayling MTC was recognized as excellent among their peers.

In attendance to receive the award were state diversity council members pictured left to right, 2nd Lt. Joel Mendoza-Joint Force Headquarters, Lansing, Sgt. 1st Class Larry Domcik, Camp Grayling MTC, 1st Sgt. Ken Holmes, Camp Grayling MTC first sergeant, and Maj. Jim Robson, the Camp Grayling MTC detachment commander, and Brig. Gen. James Brunson and Col. Burton Francisco, both assigned to JFHQ, Lansing.



Recruit Sustainment Battalion

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class James Downen Jr., Joint Force Headquarters

A Soldier joins the Michigan Army National Guard. Completion of the enlistment process and signing the contract does not guarantee the recruit will graduate Initial Active Duty Training. So what does the Michigan Army National Guard do to prepare the recruit for the mental and physical challenges of Army Basic Training?

The answer; the Recruit Sustainment Battalion. The RSB is designed to help prepare non-prior service Soldiers by training and mentoring them prior to shipping out for Basic Training. The goal of the RSB is to reduce Basic Training failures to less than 12 percent.

The RSB was established March 26, 2004. The cadre initially was selected by the State to get the program up and running. In June 2005, the Michigan National Guard Recruiting Command was tasked to run the program. Recruiter Sgt. Chris Larson said the reason for the change was that, "The Recruiter has the advantage of knowing the recruit. There is a friendship between them. If the recruit gets cold feet about going to Basic Training, the recruiter knows how they think and can help them work through their fears."

The RSB environment is instructive but not intimidating. According to Master Sgt. Robert Piper, RSB is not conducted in a Basic Training environment. "We want the young recruits to return to school on Monday and say "I had a great time at RSB" to their fellow students."

The RSB program uses Soldier Enhancement, Empowerment and Readiness curriculum to train recruits. SEAR consists of 100 curriculum hours teaching subjects such as the Army values, chain of command, rank, saluting, military time, phonetic alphabet, and equal Opportunity and sexual harassment. The SEAR training is condensed into a "Battle Book" the recruits receive at the beginning of RSB training.

RSB is broken down into four groups. These groups consist of: recruits attending their first orientation drill, recruits awaiting IADT, Split Option Training Soldiers who have attended IADT and are awaiting AIT, and Soldiers who have completed both IADT and AIT.

The recruits attending orientation or "Red Phase" receive their "Battle Book" and classroom briefings to orientate them on the training they will receive. The recruits awaiting IADT attend "White Phase", which consists of training on drill and ceremony, military legacy, and physical readiness. The recruits must pass a modified Army Physical Fitness and Readiness test consisting of 17 push ups, 13 sit ups and an 8:06 minute mile for males. Female standards are 3 push ups, 13 sit ups and a 10:30 mile run.

The last phase recruits attend prior to attending IADT is the "Blue Phase". Blue phase addresses shipper

expectations, tells the recruits what to bring and what not to bring to Basic training, and any personal or family affairs are addressed prior to shipping out.

The RSB also serves as a communications mechanism

"Your Army experience is what you put into it. A positive attitude will bring a positive outcome. Stay motivated, Hoo-ah!"

between the recruit in training and the family back in Michigan. Administrative NCO Sgt. Diedre Piechocki said the RSB calls the recruit's family once they arrive at Basic Training and keep the lines of communication open, especially if there are family difficulties or emergencies while the recruit is in training. The RSB puts out a newsletter that is sent to families that has RSB contact information and tells the families about the training the recruit is receiving

Split Option Soldiers who graduate Basic Training return to Michigan and remain in the RSB until they ship out for AIT. These Soldiers are "Green Phase" Soldiers. The RSB cadre conduct training that maintains the Green Phase Soldiers' Army Standard level of Physical Fitness and keeps the battle skills they have learned in Basic Training sharp.

Piechocki said the Split Option Soldiers must maintain the Army physical fitness standard and have a high school diploma or GED prior to returning to AIT. The RSB ensures these requirements are met to avoid AIT washouts.

The final phase of RSB occurs when the Soldier returns qualified in their military occupation speciality and is ready for the "battle handoff" to their assigned unit.

The MOS qualified Soldiers are briefed on expectations, sponsorship at the unit, and encouraged to stay physically fit. The Soldiers participate in a beret donning ceremony and are welcomed into the Michigan Army National Guard family.

Pfc. Lisa Wilson, a recent graduate of Basic training summed up the RSB program as, "A wonderful insight on what to expect at Basic. The first two weeks were a review of RSB."

Her advice for new Soldiers: "Your Army experience is what you put into it. A positive attitude will bring a positive outcome. Stay motivated, Hoo-ah!"



Michigan Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Bruce Roberts supervises Soldiers of the Recruit Sustainment Battalion (RSB) as they fall out and move into classrooms at Fort Custer, November 19, 2005.



Private Jonathan Eason (left) assists Private Joel Rankin with an M-40 protective mask. Both Soldiers are members of the Recruit Sustainment Battalion and are among those receiving useful training in preparation of their ship date to Basic Training.



Michigan Army National Guard Pfc. Ronda Tuberville of the Recruit Sustainment Battalion receives training on the M-40 protective mask from Sgt. Richard Kimball. The RSB is designed to enhance Soldier success at Basic Training, eliminate failures and maintain Soldier Battle Skills and physical fitness.

Homecomings

51st Civil Support Team
144th Military Police Company
1775th Military Police Company
1776th Military Police Company
110th Fighter Wing
1434th Quartermaster Water Purification Detachment
46th Military Police Command
Company F, 238th General Support Aviation Battalion
263rd Personnel Services Detachment
1225th Combat Support Battalion
1461st Transportation Company
1463rd Transportation Company
1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery
1073rd Maintenance Company
1436th Maintenance Company
A&O Platoon, 107th Engineer Battalion
Company B, 107th Engineer Battalion
507th Engineer Battalion
182nd Field Artillery
127th Airlift Group
127th Operation Support Flight
171st Airlift Squadron
171st Aerial Port Flight
191st Maintenance Squadron

Operation Katrina
Operation Katrina
Operation Katrina
Operation Katrina
Operation Katrina
Operation Katrina, Iraq
Kuwait, Iraq
Kuwait, Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq, Kuwait
Iraq
Kuwait
Andrews AFB, Maryland
Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan,

Sgt. 1st Class Ray Baxter, 1463rd Transportation Company is reunited with his family at the Wyoming, Mich. Armory on Nov. 24, 2005. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jim Downen Jr.)

Operation Iraqi Freedom

Currently Deployed

Chaplain (Maj.) Doug Etter, chaplain at the forward operating base where the Michigan National Guard's Company B, 125th Infantry Battalion is located, takes time to visit with Iraqi children and help change the hearts and minds of the next generation. (Photo courtesy of Chaplain Etter, 1-110 Infantry, 2/28 BCT, Pennsylvania National Guard)

63rd Troop Command Fwd
Company A, 107th Engineer Battalion
Company C, 107th Engineer Battalion, UH Det
110th Security Forces Squadron
110th Civil Engineers
119th Field Artillery Battalion
Company B, 125th Infantry
125th Infantry Battalion HHC
126th Armor Battalion Heavy
127th Civil Engineers
127 Logistics Readiness Squadron
171st Airlift Squadron
171st Aerial Port Flight
171st Operation Support Flight
191st Maintenance Squadron
238th Aviation Battalion
Company A, 238th Aviation Battalion Fwd
1071st Maintenance Company
1072nd Maintenance Company
1073rd Maintenance Company
Medical Command Fwd 127
Medical Command Fwd 263

Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Ft Irwin, Calif. (NTC), Iraq,
Fort McCoy, Wis.
Diego Garcia
Kuwait
Spain
Kuwait, Manua
Kuwait
Ft. Hood, Texas
Bosnia
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq



Lansing Clippers “Sew Crazy” for our troops!

By Master Sgt. Denice Rankin

Recently, 22 members of the Lansing Clippers, a chapter of the American Sewing Guild, found a way to thank our Michigan National Guard members for their service to our country and to the state of Michigan. The “clippers” came together and sewed 52 handmade bears for children of Lansing area National Guard members who are currently deployed or who are preparing to deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Seven members of the sewing guild also made and donated 10 quilts.

The bears were donated to the Family Support Group in Lansing, who will coordinate the ‘handoff’ to the children when their parent(s) deploys. The Lansing Clippers worked over 70 hours to make the bears. Another friend of the group donated 40 collector bears for the children also.



Members of the Lansing Clippers sewed bears and blankets for children of deployed, or soon to be deployed Michigan National Guard members. Pictured below are some of the Clippers at work above are some of their finished products. (Photos courtesy of Lansing Clipper, Mrs. Joyce Savage.)



Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

From Aug. 1, 2005 through Oct. 31, 2005

Army Guard

Colonel

Meyers, Berri K.

Lieutenant Colonel

Rempalski, Richard M.

Royer, Curtis J.

Major

Burton, Phillip L.

Cognitore, Joseph A.

Densham, Timothy B.

Verbanic, Bartholomew J.

Captain

Mitchell, Andrea L.

First Lieutenant

Archer, William J.

Caras, John T.

Crump, James C.

Hill, Mark R.

Lemelin, Stephen J.

Mccuen, Chad D.

Pieknik, Gregory J.

Shaffer, Scott D.

Strickland, Lonnie R.

Voss, Daniel R.

Zinke, Jeremy W.

Second Lieutenant

Anderson, Nicholas A.

Braxton, Royce E.

Caradonna, Paul J.

Findlay, Timothy B.

Ford, Jeremy S.

Gualdoni, Alexander S.

Haaksma, Shawn K.

Harvey, Duane A.

Huber, Joshua B.

Imber, David M.

Knowles, Bradley D.

Knowles, Randall J.

Kohtala, Jesse L.

Mueller, Travis J.

Robertson, Troy E.

Sluhan, Diana M.

Warrant Officer 2

Montgomery, Jon R.

Warrant Officer 1

Andino, Felix V.

Brewer, Jeremy G.

Command Sgt. Major

Clarmont, Dale V.

Sergeant Major

Arrington, Jody L.

Bridges, Michael G.

Custer, James H.

Herrin, Thomas R.

Husband, Delbert P.

Sargeant, Stephen A.

Master Sergeant

Bloye, John C.

Heppe, Gerald A.

Horn, Manuel T.

Kiersey, Laurie A.

Noble, Calvin L.

Passino, Matthew J.

Sergeant First Class

Easterling, Gary D.

Hagelgans, Kevin W.

Harrington, David P.

Henry, Michael D.

Hilton, Mary J.

Kleinhardt, Duane C.

Kowalski, Gary R.

Lamb, Thomas P.

Merkel, Bryan G.

See, Patrick W.

Stafford, David L.

Tebby, Timothy K.

Waits, Michelle A.

Warner, Terence L.

Webber, William D.

West, Bryan D.

Williams, Michael J.

Wilson, Trevor L.

Staff Sergeant

Berry, Bobby J.

Bird, Dawn M.

Boyd, Deon L.

Cox, Anthony B.

Crawford, Steven M.

Fox, William J.

Graves, Eric J.

Green, Mark A.

Hewelt, Ronald J.

Higby, Gwendolyn M.

Howardbest, Heather L.

Hughes, Donald R.

Huhta, Charles S.

Jensen, Matthew C.

Kamm, David D.

Kemp, Diane K.

Kemp, Kal W.

Kilgore, Alvin C.

Kramer, Vanessa J.

Krueger, Dale D.

Lytle, Andrew J.

Mcferrren, Ronald H.

Mckibbin, Jon C.

Munson, Charles G.

Oconnor, Jonathan P.

Petersen, Charles J.

Pham, Timothy M.

Powell, Gerald L.

Pummill, William A.

Quada, Thomas F.

Randolph, Chad T.

Salifu, Ichel T.

Samsel, Charles A.

Schlossenberger, Lynn M.

Senyczko, Jacquelyn S.

Shafer, Joel A.

Sisson, Tyler D.

Tabaczka, Nicholas P.

Turner, Benjamin L.

Vaive, Todd A.

Vliet, Jack K.

Wallager, Carl S.

Watkins, Scott E.

Zaviski, Basil A.

Sergeant

Andrews, Wilburn L.

Bentz, Kane M.

Boettcher, Benjamin P.

Bosley, Kerri A.

Bovain, Darrell B.

Bustamante, Miguel A.

Cantwell, Jessica L.

Carr, Ronald E.

Cavalier, Andrew B.

Cole, Amanda K.

Combs, Nicole C.

Convery, Joseph W.

Crowe, Andrew J.

Daugherty, Preston R.

Delisle, James P.

Deroche, Daniel R.

Dexter, Rocky L.

Dixon, Karen M.

Donaldson, Stanley J.

Dreasky, Duane J.

Duvall, Daniel V.

Elenbaas, Heath A.

Favreau, Daryl J.

Fitrakis, William D.

Goerge, Larry J.

Gunnink, Jonathan A.

Hagan, Mark G.

Hall, Gary A.

Haney, Graham M.

Harder, Brian G.

Humphrey, Christopher

Hurley, James B.

Imanse, Craig L.

James, Cedrick L.

Janik, Michael G.

Johns, Thomas A.

Johnson, David T.

Johnson, Shaun E.

Jung, Frederick H.

Keener, Jordan M.

Kieffer, Cary A.

Kloosterman, Daniel J.

Knox, Jeffrey T.

Koch, Keith C.

Kramer, Kurt S.

Krompetz, Dustin C.

Kubicki, Keith A.

Kwiatkowski, Matthew D.

Langlois, Charles R.

Lawrence, Charles P.

Lawrence, Rodney C.

Leahy, Andrew P.

Lieffers, Christopher S.

Mapp, Stanley O.

Martin, Francis R.

Matthews, Robert H.

Maxon, Derek S.

Mcdonough, James M.

Mcginnis, Misty M.

Meyers, Michael R.

Miller, Aaron C.

Miller, Kelly J.

Mireles, Rene C.

Moore, Aaron C.

Morehouse, James C.

Neal, Nathan M.

Oraziotti, Adam R.

Ostahowski, Eric D.

Palmer, John E.

Penn, Sharon A.

Peters, Jeremy L.

Post, Gregory S.

Presnall, Troy N.

Ransom, Crystal G.

Rau, Melinda M.

Ruel, Ricardo N.

Sabatini, John R.

Schock, Michael J.

Seaman, Trystyn E.

Smith, Earl L.

Smith, Jason V.

Songer, Dane L.

Stevens, Chad C.

Stevens, Scott A.

Stokes, Anthony L.

Thomas, Timothy J.

Tyree, David J.

Vanvalkenburgh, Gary

Vinson, Kent L.

Warner, Daniel E.

White, Jason R.

Whitfield, Kevin A.

Williams, William M.

Wilson, Guy T.

Young, Stephen R.

Specialist

Ahola, Karl A.

Andrich, Chauncy M.

Aumick, David H.

Baditot, Bethany L.

Barnett, Nicholas J.

Bates, Cort F.

Bauman, Matthew J.

Bean, Joshua J.

Beason, Eric L.

Behm, Eric E.

Berry, Ryan T.

Binder, Joshina J.

Botts, Pat A.

Brennan, Andrew S.

Brevoort, Jonathan L.

Bridges, Brent A.

Bridges, Danielle M.

Bush, Andrew L.

Carrick, Terry A.

Carver, Dane O.

Centers, Thomas R.

Ciers, David M.

Cilia, Peter M.

Cobiskey, Jeanne O.

Conley, Phillip W.

Connelly, Patrick J.

Cummings, Jerry L.

Cummings, Tremayne J.

Davis, Desmond E.

Deitz, Marissa A.

Dove, Daniel R.

Draper, Kimberly J.

Dugan, Andrew C.

Duguay, Sarah S.

Elder, Michael F.

Elegeert, Mark D.

Enos, Cory L.

Espinosa, Raul A.

Field, Ashley R.

Fountain, William L.

Frenette, Clint G.

Gambino, Joseph J.

Gothro, Patrick A.

Hautala, Nathan P.

Hayes, Kristopher S.

Hedger, Alexander L.

Hester, Robert L.

Hicks, Lee M.

Hill, Michael A.

Hoffman, Frederick E.

Isaac, Sean W.

Johnson, Grace A.

Johnson, Larry W.

Johnson, Raleigh J.

Jones, Jody R.

Kaluzny, Lisa M.

Keiffer, Jason T.

Keller, Matthew E.

Kennedy, Alfred H.

Klingler, Caleb J.

Klump, Marissa R.

Konyndyk, Melissa J.

Kowalczyk, Katlin R.

Kowalski, Matthew E.

Laatz, Jeffrey D.

Lafontaine, Corey M.

Lawless, Donavan J.

Libby, Joshua J.

Liston, William T.

Lucas, David H.

Macdonald, William J.

Magnuson, Eric A.

Marinelli, Nicole M.

Marth, Brian K.

Martin, Andrew C.

Martin, Christopher M.

Martinez, Paul N.	Snook, Brian J.	Cook, Richard D.	Moore, Jack D.	Bennett, Dawn M.	Johnson, Michael S.
Mauchmar, Ryan J.	Spence, Jeremy A.	Copeman, Michael C.	Morkert, Brian L.	Berner, Benjamin J.	Jorman, Duane C.
Mcbride, Justin R.	Spoor, Michael N.	Costner, Derrick W.	Morris, Michael L.	Bischoff, Ashley M.	Joseph, Gabriel M.
Mccarty, Adam R.	Stanwick, Steven J.	Croff, Chad A.	Nedeau, Justin L.	Body, Bobby L.	Keeley, Tricia L.
Mcconnell, Jason D.	Stewart, Jason L.	Daggs, Eric F.	Norman, Michael J.	Boonstra, Kelsey J.	Kelly, Cory A.
Mccuen, Trisha R.	Sutter, Nathaniel T.	Davey, Chad J.	Olsen, Kevin D.	Bostic, Michael P.	King, Michael V.
Mckay, Timothy W.	Swaenepoel, Michael L.	Davis, Joseph L.	Parrish, Christine A.	Boulton, Matthew A.	Kingsbury, Zane C.
Mcnally, Kenneth A.	Swan, Michael L.	Davis, Troy E.	Peters, Scott R.	Bronkema, Ryan S.	Knoll, Lawrence J.
Meints, Preston H.	Syacsure, Dennis W.	Delaluz, Michael E.	Peterson, Jared A.	Camburn, Terrance S.	Kolatski, Frank F.
Miller, Billy F.	Thorrington, Justin W.	Dent, Robert M.	Phillips, Shane J.	Campbell, Jeramy R.	Lapointe, Joseph T.
Monroe, Brandyce M.	Trice, Edsel J.	Fahey, Kristi E.	Piccard, Philip M.	Chapman, Eric T.	Larson, Thomas G.
Montgomery, Ryan T.	Trigger, Wade G.	Ferrel, Richard G.	Post, David A.	Cody, Brian L.	London, Krista A.
Nogafsky, Brandon L.	Trygstad, Eriksen D.	Fether, Andrew J.	Rasmussen, Heather A.	Coe, Christol L.	Manninen, Matthew P.
Orr, Tracey A.	Tuberville, Raymond L.	Garvey, Jonathan E.	Reinsmith, Erik D.	Colegate, Dustin R.	Martin, Christopher S.
Osbo, Nathan J.	Turunen, Jeremy W.	Gatz, Jeremy A.	Reistconner, Joshua P.	Crampton, Beth M.	Matheny, Hanna R.
Palm, Nicholas R.	Tuzas, Brett A.	Geltz, Joshua J.	Rescoe, Stewart A.	Crawford, Alice V.	Mccain, Benjamin D.
Palzewicz, Shawn J.	Vandenbrand, Michele L.	Gould, Kristopher J.	Rivera, Anthony L.	Crossgrove, William J.	Molyneux, Joshua A.
Pemberton, Randall J.	Wadlington, Walter A.	Griffin, Joshua R.	Rogers, Race F.	Crowe, Jerry A.	Moore, Cecil J.
Pennellator, Diane M.	Wakeham, Thomas R.	Hamilton, Thomas E.	Ruohomaki, Michael J.	Culbreath, Kenneth W.	Mosby, Derrick N.
Perk, Joshua J.	Walker, Drew R.	Hammer, John W.	Schafer, Dane A.	Deleon, Andrew M.	Moss, Ryan A.
Pitts, Victor R.	Warmbein, Barrett W.	Hansen, Randall J.	Schiller, Kyle D.	Derushia, Gary S.	Nelson, Stacey A.
Pomerville, Ryan S.	Weddington, Shana L.	Harbert, Gary J.	Schmidt, Steven C.	Dirschell, Joshua L.	Nicholls, Brian L.
Post, Nicholas J.	Wells moss, Jamise D.	Harvey, Jon E.	Schmitz, Wesley M.	Donley, Michael R.	Nielsen, Jason R.
Prevost, Sarah A.	Whitman, Brandon L.	Heyworth, James R.	Scott, Michael R.	Eads, Heather M.	Okler, Gerald P.
Raish, Steven W.	Wiggins, Stockton B.	Hickok, James A.	Signora, Adam L.	Edwards, Dwayne L.	Palmer, Brandi R.
Ramirez, Ernesto H.	Willer, Tyler C.	Hoaglin, Nicole M.	Smith, David G.	Elliott, James D.	Parcell, Samantha A.
Redigan, Sean D.	Wise, Richard D.	Howard, Scott M.	Smith, Nicholas A.	Ferriss, Jeramie T.	Particka, Jordon A.
Redman, Khory R.	Wizorek, Allen L.	Hunter, Ty E.	Smith, Robert J.	Fogarty, Daniel J.	Pattenaude, Joseph E.
Reed, John W.	Wonch, Justin T.	Ignash, Stephen P.	Sovis, John W.	Fowler, James A.	Perry, Steven M.
Rehkopf, Arthur C.	Woodard, Deron L.	Jensen, Cale A.	Stepp, Steven C.	Fredianelli, Dominic C.	Potter, James L.
Reilly, Philip A.	Wooning, Jamie L.	Johnson, Nathan P.	Strickland, Darrell S.	Ganaway, Yvonne D.	Rabb, Ronald M.
Reusch, Matthew L.	Young, Brandon M.	Jolly, Christopher R.	Struble, Kenneth R.	Gardner, Samuel F.	Ramsey, Scott A.
Richardson, Aaron C.	Private First Class	Jordan, Richard R.	Taylor, Barry L.	Green, Samantha J.	Roberts, Richard M.
Robinson, Jason P.	Adams, Lewis R.	Kelly, John J.	Tobias, Christopher B.	Gregory, Tiffany C.	Rose, Trevor N.
Rodriguez, Pinto J.	Adams, Matthew T.	Kimmel, Robert V.	Tonge, Justin R.	Guerra, Salvador S.	Sampson, Andrew R.
Rondo, Joshua C.	Andrysiak, Jason J.	Kizer, Quenton J.	Tregembo, Charles W.	Hansen, Jenna L.	Schaut, Robert P.
Rumney, Christopher M.	Arrell, Jason H.	Lawson, Brian A.	Trotter, Stephen B.	Harrington, Joshua H.	Schlack, Gary W.
Rusk, Aaron L.	Beebe, Brandon L.	Loper, Don R.	Wager, Christopher M.	Harrison, Jeremy J.	Sells, Jack W.
Sagle, Nathaniel L.	Bellant, Steven L.	Lucas, Austin D.	Ware, Wesley J.	Haun, William C.	Sells, Shawn P.
Scanlon, Patrick B.	Brown, Gabriel B.	Luce, Leah D.	Wilson, Wanavia T.	Hawkins, Cora L.	Sherman, Zachary T.
Schmidt, Kathryn M.	Browning, Travis J.	Malone, Evan L.	Wynkoop, Alan V.	Hein, Joseph N.	Simmons, Brandon A.
Scott, John C.	Buell, Kurt W.	Marsden, Kyle E.	Yudgehinus, Jessica L.	Herriman, Andrew W.	Smithers, Stephen H.
Service, Nichols L.	Burrell, Jason R.	May, Dimitrius N.	Private 2	Herring, Andrew S.	Spelman, Joseph M.
Shideler, Randolph R.	Byl, Maurice W.	Mayo, William J.	Aernie, Bradley K.	Hibma, Cody C.	Spencer, Mark C.
Sivil, Alexander D.	Cardinal, Jason A.	Mccants, Tiffany C.	Anderson, Michael A.	Hoolsema, Eric J.	Stepp, Jeremy L.
Slater, Cyle L.	Carlisle, Crege J.	Mcmichael, Ryan M.	Bagwell, Shaun P.	Hoover, Shane W.	Suchland, Kristopher H.
Smallwood, Jason L.	Carluccio, Andrew V.	Meadows, Dayveon M.	Baldwin, Wesley A.	Hovinga, Andrew K.	Telehowski, Gregory T.
Smith, Derrick J.	Carter, Ashley R.	Miller, David S.	Baril, Jason L.	Hughes, Steven P.	Topping, Mercedes G.
Smith, James M.	Chaney, Tamera R.	Montalvo, Lucas A.	Bates, Joel C.	Humphrey, Cecilia L.	Towns, Donald E.
Smith, Johnnie S.	Connelly, Paige N.	Moody, Sean A.	Bates, Lisa S.	Jewett, Adam S.	Vance, James L.

Ward, Robert W.
Weiler, Chad A.
Whitley, Adam T.
Whitty, Jeffery S.
Wolfe, Jonas A.
Woodcock, Jason L.
Wright, Alroy S.

Air Guard

Brigadier General

Johnston, Robert H.

Lieutenant Colonel

Kitto, Michael J.
Lewissells, Sonjya L.
Sack, Robert J.
Williams, Rodney
Zakolski, Russell F.

Major

Perialas, Robert L.

Captain

Harm, Todd L.
Kokoski, Elizabeth A.

First Lieutenant

Davenport, Donald W.
Hoover, Clinton R.
Schipper, Ryan M.

Second Lieutenant

Poston, Abraham J.

Senior Master Sergeant

Smith, Donald K.
Thornberry, Ronald L.
Wilson, Jayne E.

Master Sergeant

Balabuch, Jenny R.
Casemore, Donald V.
Cleaver, Gregory E.
Conlen, Timothy M.
Curry, Stacy A.
Gleason, Laurie M.
Kopchia, William C.
Lelental, Roderick J.
McGinnis, Wayne B.
Rampley, Thomas D.
Russell, Rebecca A.
Schott, Shanna C.
Schwebes, Herman E.
White, Armond

Technical Sergeant

Allen, Joseph H.
Amara, Bryan R.
Asselin, Christopher D.
Baker, Jeffrey W.

Bates, Eric B.
Black, Lyle B.
Cressell, Charles M.
Gordon, Richard D.
Gordon, Richard G.
Henderson, Eric K.
Jones, Louis A.
Lofts II, Roy E.
Nguyen, Khoi D.
Rathje, William J.
Richards, James E.
Scott, Mark J.
Todd, Terry L.
Torres, Pedro J.
West, Debora R.
Wilson, Forest E.
Young, Maurice

Staff Sergeant

Allerding, Tyler J.
Alsalik, Nicholas H.
Bagwell, Melissa E.
Bauer, David J.
Carney, Brian D.
Cogan, Dwayne N.
Daugherty, Daniel
Haire, Hart S.
Hollie, Alfred H.
Jones, Robert L.
Klinger, Mitchell J.
Miller, Brett A.
Myers, Trisha J.
Noot, Peter J.
Potter, Jacob L.
Potthoff, William D.
Stewart, Brian W.
Sullivan, Mathew T.
Vliem, Paul W.
Walters, Derek J.
Wimby, Luke D.
Wolford, Erik M.

Senior Airman

Abdallah, Mariam
Banks, John A.
Burns, Heather R.
Culver, Christopher R.
Denney, Shawn C.
Foy, Dandrea R.
Foy, Dandrea R.
Gunter, Justen J.
Hatfield, Shawn L.
Hess, Steven W.
Howk, Kenneth J.
Huerta, Victor F.

Jacobs, David M.
Kaarlela, Robert L.
Kalee, Daniel J.
Kellogg, Matthew A.
Kunik, Nathan M.
Lavender, Jeffrey A.
Lockwood, Justin M.
Nichelson, Broc L.
Nowicki, Casey R.
Overton, Russell R.
Peelish, Joseph W.
Pittel, Mark A.
Postma, Heath D.
Struber, Stephen R.
Tallant, Amber E.
Vliek, Joe M.
Zorn, Brian D.

Airman

King, Matthew S.

TAPS

Lt. Col. Schuyler T. Barnum (Ret), 73, Sept 1, 2005
Tech. Sgt. Galen L. Kantz (Ret), 61, Sept. 4, 2005
1st Lt. James H. Scott, 71, Sept. 4, 2005
Warrant Officer 4 Bruce H. Moorman (Ret), 90, Sept. 6, 2005
Warrant Officer 4 Ross P. Thompson (Ret), 80, Sept. 7, 2005
Staff Sgt. Thomas D. Lanson, 71, Sept. 12, 2005
Lt. Col. Lloyd W. Perkins (Ret), 87, Sept. 17, 2005
Capt. Gerrit T. Nyland (Ret), 91, Sept. 30, 2005
1st Sgt. William R. Wenk (Ret), 55, Oct. 5, 2005
Spc. Timothy D. Brown, 23, Nov. 4, 2005
Staff Sgt. George G. Kilpatrick, 41, Nov. 12, 2005
Pfc. John W. Dearing, 21, Nov. 21, 2005
Spc. Benjamin R. Joslin, 21, Nov. 23, 2005

The flagpole and cannon pictured are located outside of the Task Force Panther Tactical Operations Center at Camp Habbinyah, Iraq. At the time the photo was taken, the flag was lowered to half staff in honor of Spc. Timothy Brown and a Marine who died on Nov. 4, 2005.

(Photo courtesy of Chap (Maj.) Doug Etter, 1-110 Infantry, 2-28 BCT)

Next Issue...



Members of the 110th Security Forces Squadron from Battle Creek Air National Guard Base have joined the 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron at Ali Base, Iraq to defend the perimeter and to patrol 210 square miles of hot, dusty desert surrounding the installation, keeping more than 9,000 U.S. and coalition forces safe from terrorist activity. (Photo courtesy of 110th Security Forces Squadron)

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Michigan Army and Air National Guard
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